

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 2791 - HB 2957**

February 23, 2010

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires that Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program tests (TCAP) shall be used as a percentage of the student's final grade in the tested subject. This percentage shall be set by the Department of Education but shall be at least 15 percent.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$50,000/One-Time  
\$450,000/Recurring**

**Increase Local Expenditures - \$39,510,000/One-Time  
\$6,585,000/Recurring\***

**Assumptions:**

- The Department of Education (DOE) will contract for the building of a Web site for the quickscore reporting of TCAP scores. Quickscore reporting of tests takes a student's raw score and provides a numeric grade. Currently, TCAP test hard copies are mailed to DOE processing centers; however, some LEAs end their school year before TCAP tests are scored.
- According to DOE, initial Web site building and setup fee will cost approximately \$50,000. Web site maintenance and on-going support will cost approximately \$75,000. Online reporting will cost approximately \$375,000 per year. These expenditures include per student fees for approximately 75,000 students, per school fees for approximately 1,317 schools, and the load-up and scoring of heavy duty content packages each year that contain the test material.
- LEAs will be able to retrieve the TCAP quickscore from a secure website. In order to retrieve the scores and transmit data electronically, LEAs will upgrade their elementary and middle schools. The bulk of the upgrade expenses are for secure fiber optic transmission lines that will feed the secure website for downloading of material. Currently, LEAs do not have dedicated transmission lines for testing materials, their network lines are shared with other data. These upgrades will cost approximately \$30,000 per school with a \$5,000 recurring cost for maintenance and support. These expenditures will be local increases.
- There are approximately 1,317 elementary and middle schools. One-time increases in local expenditures for upgrades will be approximately \$39,510,000 (\$30,000 x 1,317).

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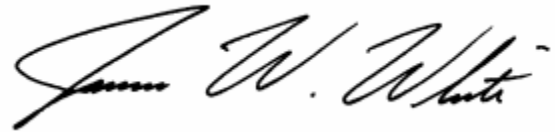
Recurring local increases in expenditures will be approximately \$6,585,000 (\$5,000 x 1,317).

- The state cannot use end of course (EOC) testing infrastructure for quickscore reporting since EOC tests are only for one content area and TCAP contain more than one content area.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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